GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4853
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2000
PROCUREMENT OF AJTS
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for which the procurement of Advance Jet Trainers (AJT) for Indian Air Force is getting delayed;

(b) whether the Government have constituted a High Level Committee to expedite the procurement process of AJTas reported in the Hindustan Times dated August 2, 2000;

(c) if so, the composition and terms of reference thereof; and

(d) the time by which the AJTs are likely to be procured?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Various trainer aircraft available in the world market were being evaluated by the government. Negotiations have commenced with M/s British Aerospace for the Hawk AJT.

(b) & (c): A special committee, with the following composition, was constituted on 14.12.1999 to monitor the progress of the acquisition of AJT aircraft and to give expeditious and necessary directions from time to time to facilitate its accelerated procurement:

Raksha Mantri Chairman
Chief of Air Staff,
Defence Secretary,
Secretary (DP&S),
Scientific Advisor to RM, and
Financial Advisor (DS) Members

(d) The contract will be signed after the negotiations are successfully completed.